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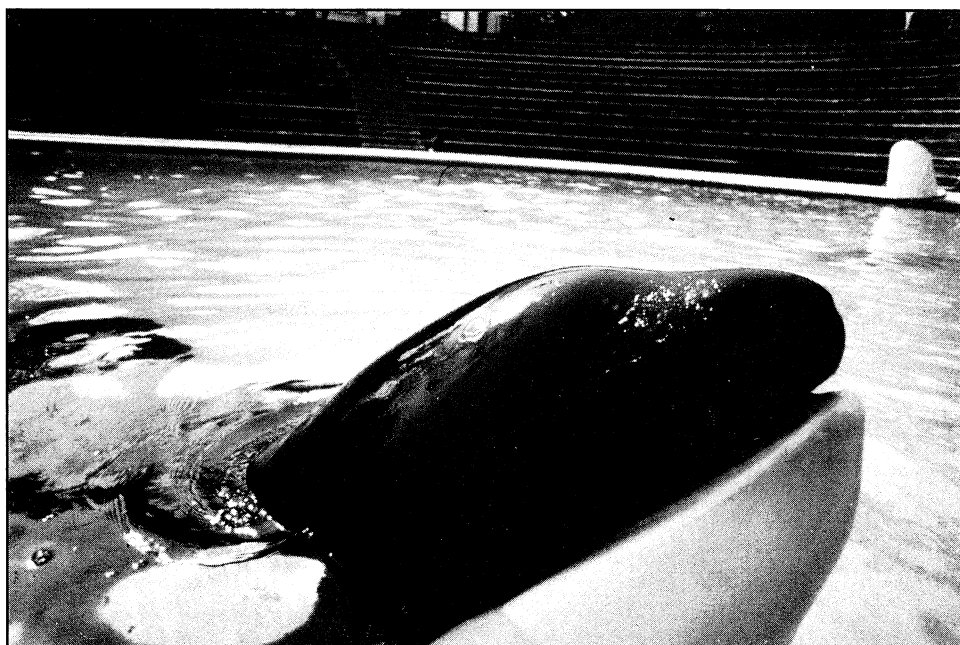
REPORT

The Humane Society of the United States

Animal Celebrities Moving to the West Coast

 In upcoming months, three famous animals will arrive at their new homes on the West Coast. Keiko, the long-suffering whale featured in the movie *Free Willy*, will soon be coming to Oregon. The whale's move is part of an effort to explore the rehabilitation of marine mammals for eventual return to their natural homes. To further these efforts, the Free Willy Foundation has been established. The foundation will facilitate the building of a new home for Keiko, his transport from Mexico, and rehabilitation for his hoped-for release. One member of the foundation's board is HSUS President Paul G. Irwin.

The other two newcomers, Tammie and Anne, are Milwaukee Zoo elephants for whom The HSUS led a nationwide campaign. They will soon arrive at their new home, the Performing Animal Welfare Society (PAWS), in Galt, California. We are thrilled that these two wonderful creatures will live the rest of their lives in sunny California. And we offer our sincere thanks to actors



Keiko, the orca who starred in the film *Free Willy*, swims in his small tank in Mexico. Soon he will arrive in his new home in Oregon, where it is hoped he will pave the way for rehabilitation and release of captive marine mammals back into the wild.

Alec Baldwin and Kim Basinger and Oakland A's manager Tony La Russa, who long campaigned for the elephants' release. Thanks also to PAWS's Pat Derby and Ed Stewart, who have taken on the

huge task of socializing and caring for these two elephants.

We join all West Coast animal advocates in welcoming Keiko, Tammie, and Anne to their new homes.

West Coast Legislative Update

While we all devote time to changing people's hearts concerning animals, it is also important for our laws to reflect these changes. Many animal-related bills, both good and bad, are now before the state legislatures in our region. We need your help to support the good and defeat the bad! Here's a state-by-state update:

California

After years of hard work to protect mountain lions and their habitat, we achieved what we thought was the final victory in 1990 when the voters passed Proposition 117, permanently prohibiting lion hunting for sport and setting aside funds to purchase critical habitat for wildlife. That measure allowed specific mountain lions to be relocated or killed if they took livestock or posed a threat to public safety. This hard-fought protection, loudly demanded by the voters, is under attack. SB 28 would refer a measure to the March 1996 ballot to resume the trophy hunting of mountain lions in California. The HSUS strongly opposes SB 28.

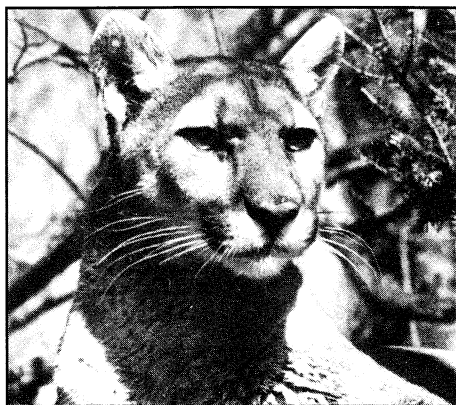
The HSUS plans to launch a landmark wildlife protection initiative to ban the cruel practice of using hounds to facilitate the slaughter of black bears and bobcats in California. If you live in California, look for the enclosed post card explaining how you can help.

Nevada

Known as the "Livestock Owners' Bill of Rights," SB 45 would essentially guarantee the "right" of those who possess virtually any animal to exploit that animal in almost any manner they choose. Oppose SB 45!

Oregon

Although Ballot Measure 18, banning the use of bait in hunting bears and



A proposed California bill would once again allow sport hunting of mountain lions. You can help stop the measure.

the use of dogs in hunting bears and cougars, passed overwhelmingly last November, we are continuing to fight efforts to gut the measure. Since its passage, The HSUS has led efforts to defeat 10 bills that would have damaged, delayed, or repealed Measure 18.

The HSUS has also worked diligently to defeat a bill to expand deer and elk ranching in the state.

Spearheaded by the Oregon Humane Society, cruelty to animals will become a felony offense when Governor Kitzhaber signs HB 3377 into law. "Often people who are cruel to animals turn their violence toward humans," said WCRO regional director Eric Sakach, who testified in support of the bill in hearings. "This bill will help identify abusers and either put them behind bars or get them the help they need before they can do more harm." In addition, Governor Kitzhaber is expected to sign SB 653 into law, which contains provisions for forfeiture or posting of a bond for the care of animals seized in abuse or neglect cases.

Washington

The Legislature chose not to act on a bill initiated by The HSUS and the Progressive Animal Welfare Society to ban bear baiting and the hound hunting of bears, cougars, bobcat, and lynx.

The HSUS plans to launch a landmark wildlife protection initiative to ban the cruel practice of using hounds to facilitate the slaughter of black bears, bobcats, and cougars in Washington. If you live in Washington, look for the enclosed post card explaining how you can help.

There are many more bills being introduced in our region that affect animals. For more information on any of these, or to learn how you can become more involved, write or call WCRO.

Keep Us Informed!

It is impossible for us at the WCRO to review every newspaper and magazine in our region that addresses animals. So we need your help! If you see any article that we should respond to or know about, please clip it, note the name of the publication and the date it appeared, and forward it promptly to WCRO. This will enable us to remain up-to-date on all animal issues in our region, and to make our voices heard!

Upcoming Symposium

You won't want to miss The HSUS symposium, "The Case Against Captivity: Speaking for Whales and Dolphins," to be held in Seattle, Washington, October 5-8, 1995. Look for detailed information about this symposium in this summer's *HSUS News*.

By Rhonda Lucas Donald

Go into just about any gift shop and you'll see cats adorning T-shirts, china, jewelry—almost anything. Socks the White House cat receives thousands of fan letters. America is a nation of cat lovers. Nearly one-third of American households own a cat. But despite our love affair with the image of the cat, Americans' relationship with the animals themselves is unfortunately two-sided.

The Massachusetts SPCA conducted a recent survey, finding that nearly two-thirds of the cat owners questioned did not set out to adopt a cat. The animals simply appeared on owners' doorsteps or landed in their laps. The survey also revealed that numerous cats spend their lives going from one home where they may not be wanted to the same situation somewhere else. Americans love cats. Yet they treat them all too often as temporary members of the family, or worse.

Fact Versus Fable

Perhaps part of the reason people treat cats the way they do is because they don't understand them. False perceptions lead people to dismiss, neglect, and even distrust cats. A new HSUS brochure, "Facts About Cat Fables," debunks 10 common misconceptions:

Fable: Cats are "no-maintenance" pets.

Fact: Because cats are litter trained, some people think that simply giving their cat food and water is enough. Not so. Cats also need regular veterinary care and *lots* of love and attention.

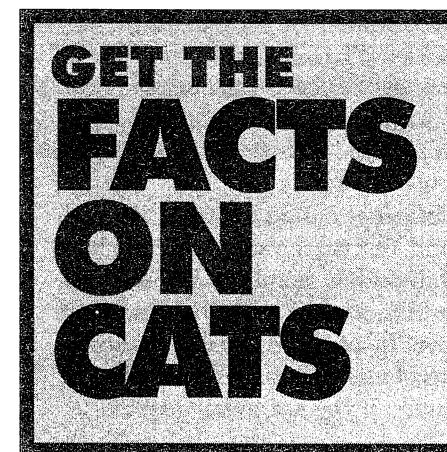
Fable: Cats always land on their feet.

Fact: While cats can often land on their feet after a short fall, falling from heights is another story. Upper-level windows and porches, unless securely screened, should be off-limits to cats.

Fable: Cats can't be trained.

Fact: Most cats can be taught to obey simple rules like not scratching the couch, eating plants, or jumping up on the kitchen counter. Repeated, gentle, and consistent training gets results.

Fable: Cats aren't happy unless they can



go outside to roam and hunt.

Fact: Cats like to play, prowl, and pounce, and they can do it all indoors with you and a few toys—without being exposed to predators, disease, traps, poison, and traffic. Indoor cats are healthier, happier—and safer.

Fable: Cats become fat and lazy after they are spayed or neutered.

Fact: Cats, just like people, generally become fat because they eat too much and don't get enough exercise. The fact is, cats who are spayed or neutered live longer lives and make better companions. By the way, female cats should be spayed *before* their first heat cycle.

Fable: Cats can see in the dark.

Fact: Cats cannot see in total darkness. They can see better than many animals in semidarkness, however, because of their eye's special anatomy.

Fable: Cats don't need collars and tags.

Fact: Every cat, even an indoor cat, should wear a collar with an ID tag to help him come home if he is lost. Many cat owners believe a collar can injure a cat. But a breakaway collar lets a cat escape if the collar becomes snagged.

Fable: Cats who disappear for a couple of days are just out hunting; there's no need to worry.

Fact: The disappearance of *any* pet is cause for alarm. As domestic animals, cats cannot cope with the dangers posed by the outdoors. For their own safety and well-being, cats should always be

kept indoors, but if your cat does somehow become lost, look for him immediately—before it's too late.

Fable: Cats will suck the breath from sleeping infants.

Fact: Curious by nature, a cat may want to climb into the crib to see what new creature her family has brought home. But she won't suck the baby's breath. She may feel a little jealous, however. Lots of lavish attention will also help reassure her that she's still an important member of the family.

Fable: Cats are aloof, independent animals and don't really want a lot of attention from humans.

Fact: Cats are *domestic* animals because they live in the *home*. They crave human companionship and establish loving bonds with their human families. An owner who tosses the cat outdoors, or spends little time with him, will never know the rewarding—and very special—relationship that comes from making a cat a true member of the family.

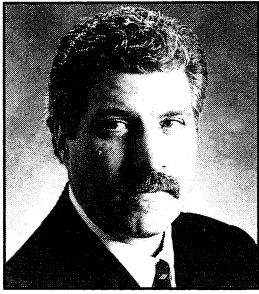
Time for a Change

It's time to change people's perceptions and elevate cats to the status they deserve—that of beloved and protected companions. Just talking to people is a great first step. Your local humane society can give you advice and tips to persuade cat owners to improve, and the materials mentioned at the end of this article are also a big help. However, if the situation is serious or the cat is suffering, you should report it immediately to animal control or the police.

Helping pass cat-protection legislation is one of the best ways to improve the lives of cats. Good laws protect cats, just as they have protected dogs for years.

The HSUS has three new publications that will help you help the cats—a 35-page booklet on cat-care basics, a brochure dispelling cat fables, and a 20-page booklet on cat-protective legislation. For information on ordering "Get the Facts on Cats" materials, write to The HSUS, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037.

Director's Report



By Eric Sakach,
Director of
The HSUS
West Coast
Regional
Office

WCRO: Busy for the Animals

Recently, WCRO investigator Eric Sakach was appointed director of The HSUS West Coast Regional Office, succeeding Charlene Drennon, who has moved on to other duties within The HSUS. An investigator with The HSUS since 1976, Sakach brings years of experience in animal protection and regional issues to the job.



It is a pleasure to begin my work as the new director of The HSUS West Coast Regional Office. I'm looking forward to the challenge of bringing WCRO into a new era for animals. As always, the office has been bustling. Whether it's helping local humane organizations deal with a flood or fighting for good animal protective legislation, WCRO is involved and committed to improving animals' lives.

Once again this spring, torrential rains, floods, and mud slides struck the West Coast. And once again, The HSUS stood ready to support relief efforts carried out by the local animal community. WCRO contacted local humane societies throughout the region to offer assistance and supplies while they were busy rounding up loose animals and searching for trapped ones. The animals were

brought to a safe place until their owners could claim them. We extend special thanks to PETCO, a pet supply company that responded to our call for help by providing carriers, food, and other items to the relief effort of the SPCA of Monterey County.

Whether during a disaster or year-round, our organization can only be as effective as its members. We need our West Coast members to become more active! In this issue you'll see descriptions of many legislative bills affecting animals. If you are willing to make a telephone call or write a letter on behalf of the animals, please write the WCRO.

Another way for people who work for animals to become involved is to attend an annual HSUS Animal Care Expo. Expo '95, held in Orlando, Florida, was a resounding success. Hundreds of people from our region attended. This is a one-of-a-kind event—part animal trade show and part professional training, with workshops and seminars to teach people how to help animals. Also at the Expo, The HSUS released a new 40-minute training video, which instructs shelter personnel on handling cats. The video is available for \$20 per copy from HSUS, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037.

Expo '96 will be in our region in Las Vegas, Nevada, on February 13-17 at the Riviera Hotel. The theme will be education, and, as part of the Expo, the Western Humane and Environmental Educators Association will be hosting a one-day seminar to train those who work or want to work in humane education. Contact WCRO and we will place you on a mailing list to receive preview information. We invite everyone to Expo '96!

On a final note, we'd like to introduce Mike Winikoff, WCRO's new program coordinator. Mike has been in the animal protection movement for nine years.

He has spent the last four years in our national office as HSUS legal investigator and as director of research and development for Humane Society International. Welcome, Mike!

Reflect for a moment...

How can I help animals and receive income and tax savings at the same time?

By making a planned gift to The Humane Society of the United States, you can assure that animals will receive the protection they need while providing significant tax savings and income to yourself. Naming The HSUS as a beneficiary of your estate or trust demonstrates your lasting commitment to animal welfare and strengthens the society for future tasks. We will be happy to send our latest information on planned giving and our programs to help animals.

Mail this coupon in the envelope provided or send directly to Director of Planned Giving, The Humane Society of the U.S., 2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Contacting WCRO

**Write: HSUS West Coast
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